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DOWNING DENVER

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JENNIFER LOGUE, FEATURES EDITOR

What's the best thing since sliced bread? National Sandwich Day, of course! Today is the perfect excuse to ditch your low-carb lifestyle and get your hands on one of Philly's best sandwiches. From The Little Lion's fried green tomato grilled cheese (pictured on cover) to build-your-own banh mi at Double Knot, your belly will be satisfied and your Instagram feed will be droolworthy.

NEW JERSEY RESIDENTS RECEIVE RACIST MAILER

1 Residents in Edison, New Jersey, were sent racist Make Edison Great Again campaign mailers targeting Asians and Indians and urging the community to deport two Asian school board candidates. "The Chinese and Indians are taking over our town!" the postcard reads. "Chinese school! Indian School! Cricket fields! Enough is Enough!" Featured on the postcard mailed to Edison residents are pictures of two board of education candidates Jerry Shi and Falguni Patel with the word "deport" covering the lower portion of their pictures. The racist postcard urges Edison residents to "stop" the two school board candidates from "taking over" the school. The back of the card says such things as, "Stop the multiple families living in the same house!" and "Stop wasting school holidays!"

POWELL NOMINATED TO LEAD CENTRAL BANK

2 President Donald Trump tapped Fed Governor Jerome Powell to become head of the U.S. central bank, promoting a soft-spoken centrist to replace Janet Yellen when her term expires in February 2018. Powell, appointed to the Fed board in 2012 by then-President Barack Obama, emerged as Trump's choice from a five-person slate of possible nominees that included Yellen as well as others who would have represented a sharp change in monetary policy. In an announcement at the White House, Trump called Powell a strong, committed and smart leader. "He has proved to be a consensus builder for the sound monetary and financial policy that he believes in ... Based on his record I am confident that Jay has the wisdom and leadership to guide our economy," Trump said as the Fed nominee looked on.

MEMORIAL

3 People ride bikes past the scene of Tuesday's terrorist attack along a bike path in lower Manhattan on Thursday in New York City.

GETTY IMAGES

POPE MAKES EMOTIONAL ANTI-WAR ADDRESS

4 Pope Francis made one of his most emotional anti-war addresses on Thursday, saying during a visit to a U.S. military cemetery that the world seemed to be headed into war perhaps bigger than any before. Francis said a Mass for several thousand people at the Sicily-Rome American Cemetery in the town of Nettuno, south of the Italian capital, on the day Roman Catholics commemorate their dead. The burial ground is the final resting place for 7,860 American soldiers who died in the liberation of southern Italy and Rome in 1943 and 1944. He walked slowly and alone amid the rows of low white headstones in the shape of crosses and Stars of David, gently resting a white rose on about a dozen and stopping to pray silently before saying the Mass.

MANAFORT ORDERED TO STAY UNDER HOME ARREST

5 A U.S. judge on Thursday ordered President Donald Trump's former campaign manager Paul Manafort to remain under home arrest and wear an electronic monitoring device for now as he awaits a tentative trial date on money-laundering and other charges. Manafort, who ran Trump's presidential campaign for several months last year, and his associate Richard Gates pleaded not guilty on Monday to a 12-count indictment. The charges include conspiracy to launder money, conspiracy against the United States and failing to register as foreign agents of Ukraine's former pro-Russian government. They are part of Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation of alleged Russian efforts to tilt the 2016 election in Trump's favor and into potential collusion by Trump's associates.

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Mayor Jim Kenney has moved to localize control of Philly schools. GETTY IMAGES

Kenney: Give me control, I'll save Philly's schools

Leaders citywide support mayor's plan to make the School Reform Commission history.

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For 16 years, the state's School Reform Commission, which governs Philly schools and their budgets, has overseen the education of the city's youth.

On Thursday, Mayor Jim Kenney announced in no uncertain terms that that had been far long enough.

Due to factors outside its control, the District is facing a deficit that begins next year and will grow to nearly $1 billion over the next five years.

"I am unwilling to sacrifice the hard-won progress of our students and go back to the days of classrooms without teachers and schools without counselors or nurses," Kenney said at a speech on Thursday morning in which he called on the School Reform Commission (SRC) to vote themselves out of existence at their coming Nov. 16 meeting and move toward creating a local school board appointed by the mayor.

While that vote would require a further series of hearings to determine how best to transition control of schools from the state to the city, Kenney said the city could improve efficiency and increase spending on city schools, which, he said, under current plans, are headed to a $1 billion deficit.

"By moving toward local control, the city of Philadelphia is taking some ownership of unwise management decisions over which we had no say," said City Council President Darrell Clarke. "Philly students have ultimately suffered the consequences of years of uneven, at times chaotic, management. That is morally wrong and must come to an end."

The legislative process formally began Thursday when City Council Education Committee Chair Jannie Blackwell introduced a resolution at City Council to begin transitioning schools to local control. If the council approves it and the Mayor signs it, Philly voters will vote in the May 2018 primary on whether to reauthorize the Philadelphia Board of Education though the state government also must agree to dissolve the SRC.

SRC members don't seem to oppose the plan. Chair Joyce Wilkerson said the commission was meant to be "a temporary form of governance" and noted that the district now has a "balanced budget [and] strong leadership."

"As a result of this progress and stability, we have the opportunity to reexamine the governance structure including the restoration of local control," Wilkerson said. "It is time for Philadelphia to take ownership of that future."

In recent years, the school district has seen 24 schools closed and nearly 4,000 employees laid off. Philly Federation of Teachers President Jerry Jordan called Kenney's announcement "a huge step toward ending what has been a long, failed experiment in state control of public schools.

"Act 46, the legislation that created the SRC, also paved the way for privatization, exploding deficits, mass layoffs, school closings and the [ultimately failed] attempt to cancel the PFT contract," Jordan sid.

But in the meantime, Philly schools are just going to keep operating as usual, Superintendent William Hite said.

"Our priorities remain the same," Hite said. "We are focused on our early literacy efforts, preparing students for college and career, recruiting and retaining great talent, and maintaining financial stability. Our work will make sure that all students in Philadelphia have a great school close to where they live."

"Philly students have ultimately suffered the consequences of years of uneven, at times chaotic, management. [It] must come to an end." Darrell Clarke

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Fighting for the defenseless in Philadelphia

Meet Romina Giel, the Humane League's new Philadelphia grass-roots coordinator.

JAYSON FLORES
@MetroPhilly
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Romina Giel, the Humane League's new Philadelphia grassroots coordinator. PROVIDED

To folks not in tune with the animal-rights movement and veganism or plant-based eating, it might be a surprise to learn that Philadelphia stands out in these industries. With organizations like the Philadelphia Animal Welfare Society (PAWS)—that are fighting for a no-kill Philly—and vegetarian/vegan restaurants slowly lining streets around the city, this is a great city for people looking to minimize animal cruelty.

It just got even better, with The Humane League appointing a new Philadelphia grass-roots coordinator, Romina Giel.

Metro spoke to Giel about her position and her plans for animal activism in Philly.

Can you tell our readers a little bit about yourself?
I'm 25 and originally from New York City. I attended The New School and earned my degree in Urban Studies and Visual Arts. I've been living in Philly for the past two years, but spent many of my teen years here in the suburbs. I started with The Humane League one year ago as a volunteer, then became an intern and am now so happy to be working full-time with THL.

Why do you think the Humane League chose Philadelphia as a location?
The Humane League actually began in Philadelphia in 2005, so Philly is unique in that some of our volunteers have been with us since day one. Apart from that, Philly is also a vegan hub. So many people are vegan or vegetarian and care a lot about the issues surrounding animal consumption, so there is a need for animal-rights groups like THL to lead events and provide opportunities for the vegan community to stay connected and feel empowered because they really are making a difference for animals.

How does Philadelphia rank, in your mind, in terms of vegan and plant-based options and accessibility?
Veganism is definitely a simple and effective way to advocate against animal cruelty and live for what you believe in, and in Philadelphia, I find that there are so many people who do just that. The vegan community in Philadelphia is vast, and that has increased the demand for vegan options around the city. The opening of Wiz Kid, Goldie and a second Blackbird location in under one year is a perfect example.

Can you tell us about some of the recent campaigns the Humane League has been running?
We are campaigning to see Darden, the parent company of Olive Garden, The Capital Grille, LongHorn Steakhouse and more, to commit to a meaningful welfare policy for their chickens. Currently, the chickens in their supply chain are crammed inside dirty sheds with no natural source of light. They are bred to grow so grotesquely large and, if they make it to slaughter, they are then brutally killed. Sometimes electrically shocked, scalded or by having their throats slit all while fully conscious. This is unnecessary and unacceptable cruelty, and we are giving Darden the opportunity to make a meaningful change.

How can folks get involved with the Humane League?
I would like to invite anyone who is even slightly curious about vegetarianism, veganism, animal activism or environmentalism to reach out to me. Even if you just want to learn more about THL or would like to become a volunteer or an intern, please reach out! If you have limited time, there are still ways to get involved and that would be through our Fast Action Network (FAN). My email is rgiel@thehumaneleague.org, and I'm always happy to answer questions.

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Google, Facebook and others sign brief urging Trump to reinstate DACA

Google, Facebook, Uber and Lyft have joined more than 100 other tech companies in defense of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program that President Trump wants to get rid of.

The amicus brief, a document used to support a case, was signed to support a filed lawsuit that challenges the Trump Administration's decision to cancel the program. A number of tech companies filed the brief including Airbnb, Microsoft, Twitter, eBay, IBM, Verizon Communications Inc. and others to get DACA reinstated.

The document supports a lawsuit filed by California Attorney General Xavier Becerra on Wednesday in federal court. His goal is to challenge and put block Trump's plan to eliminate DACA.

The tech companies that have filed the amicus brief all believe immigrants are important to sustaining the U.S. economy and by getting rid of the DACA program would prevent companies from growing.

"Apple will be harmed significantly if it can no longer benefit from the hard work, creativity, and intelligence of its employees with DACA status," said Deirdre O'Brien, Apple's vice president of people, according to Reuters.

According to the filing, Apple has more than 250 employees who benefit from the DACA program.

In September, President Trump announced his plan to end DACA, which was created in 2012 by former president Barack Obama. Before announcing his decision CEOs of tech companies signed a letter urging the president not to eliminate the program that has proved to be valuable to many tech companies in the country. LENYON WHITAKER

Apple has more than 250 employees who benefit from the DACA program. GETTY IMAGES

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Michael Flynn retweeted accounts from Russian troll farm before election

The former national security adviser pushed Kremlin-backed propaganda in the days before Americans headed to the polls.

MICHAEL MARTIN
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Michael Flynn, a former national security adviser, has been considered a target in the ongoing Russia-collusion investigation. GETTY IMAGES

Fired Trump National Security Adviser Michael Flynn followed five Twitter accounts from a Russian troll factory and pushed their messages right before the 2016 presidential election, the Daily Beast reported Thursday.

On Wednesday, House investigators revealed the names of 2,750 accounts created by the Internet Research Agency, a St. Petersburg-based troll farm linked to the Kremlin. One of them had previously been unmasked as Ten_GOP, which Flynn, Donald Trump Jr., Trump campaign manager Kellyanne Conway and Trump campaign digital director Brad Parscale retweeted before the election.

Flynn quoted a tweet by Pamela_Moore13 on Oct. 13 and wrote, "Let's take our country back from the hands of those who care less about you & I and more about power & money."

"Moore," who claimed to be a Texas resident and "pro-God," often posted anti-immigrant sentiments. "Today's Marseille, France: Hospitals are so overrun by Muslims immigrants that local French can no longer get care," was posted by the account in August, a few weeks before it was taken offline by Twitter.

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Michelle Obama has some Twitter advice for President Donald Trump

Michelle Obama discussed Twitter habits with poet Elizabeth Alexander at the Obama Foundation Summit on Wednesday. GETTY IMAGES

Michelle Obama knows how much words matter, especially on social media platforms, and she made some thinly veiled swipes at Donald Trump's Twitter habits.

The former first lady sat down with poet Elizabeth Alexander for a discussion at the Obama Foundation Summit in Chicago on Wednesday to talk about the dangers of social media and the importance of thinking before you speak … or tweet.

"This whole 'tell it like it is' business, that's nonsense," Obama said.

"When you have a voice you can't just use it any kind of way. You just don't say what's on your mind. You don't tweet every thought," she continued. "Most of your first initial thoughts are not worthy of the light of day."

Though Obama said she wasn't "talking about anybody in particular," a knowing laugh from the audience seemed to confirm her comments were a dig at President Trump's Twitter addiction.

"You need to think and spell it right and have good grammar, too," Obama said, perhaps taking another hit at the Trump Twitter style.

But Obama's message was about more than just making subtle digs at Trump. She discussed the importance of crafting intelligent messages when in a position of power.

"And I think when you're the first lady or the president, the commander in chief, and you have that voice, and that power, and that platform, I think what comes with that is the responsibility to know that every word you utter has consequences," she said.

But it's not just the powerful who need to watch what they say or tweet, she said.

"Words matter at this level and you learn how much they matter at this level, but that doesn't mean that anybody in this room is free to be careless with words and how they debate," Obama added. ERIN TIERNAN

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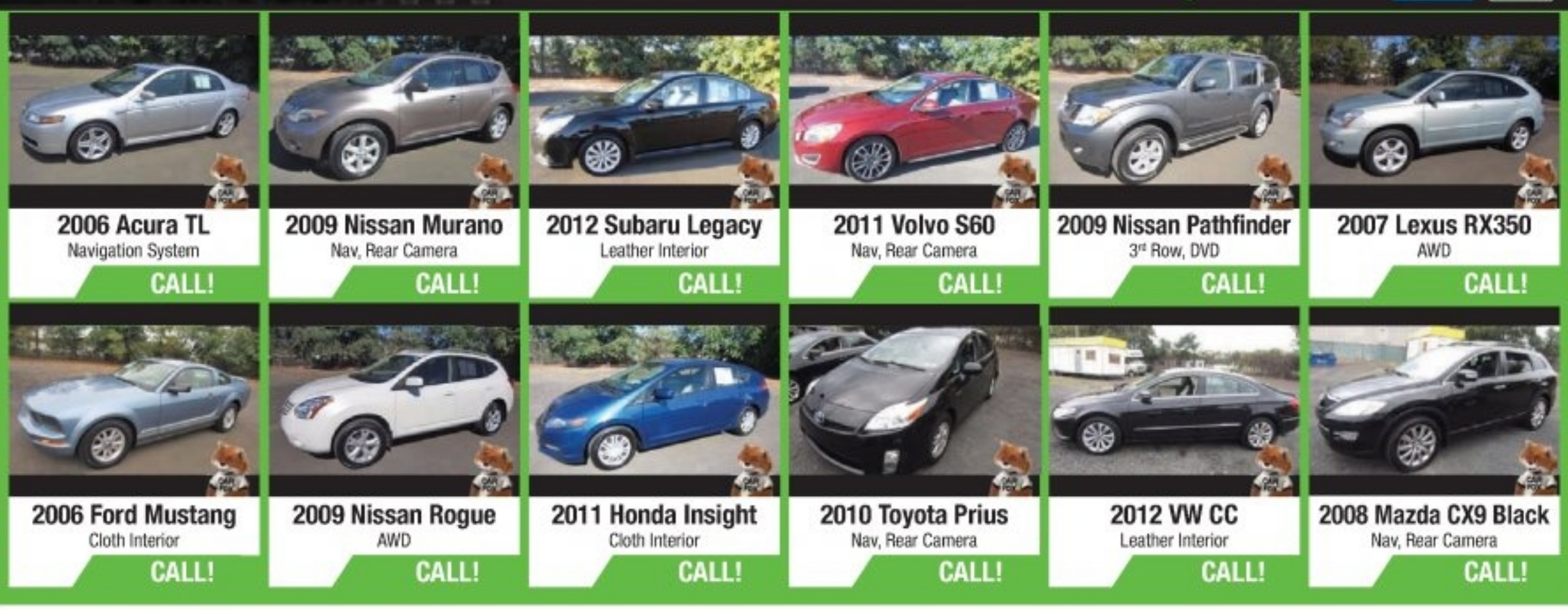

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Republicans unveil tax-cut bill, but the hard work awaits

Investors cautioned the plan was preliminary, and it was too soon to gauge the effect on specific industries.

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi speaks during a news conference where congressional Democrats reacted to the new tax reform proposal. GETTY IMAGES

U.S. House of Representatives Republicans unveiled long-delayed legislation on Thursday to deliver deep tax cuts that President Donald Trump has promised, setting off a frantic race in Congress to give him his first major legislative victory.

The 429-page bill, representing what would be the largest overhaul of the U.S. tax system since the 1980s, called for slashing the corporate tax rate to 20 percent from 35 percent, cutting tax rates on individuals and families and ending certain tax breaks for companies and individuals.

Congressional passage of this legislation that would affect nearly every U.S. company and family was far from certain, and some business groups quickly came out against it. Contentious provisions will test Republicans, who control the White House and both chambers of Congress but have been unable to deliver any major legislative achievements for Trump since the businessman-turned-politician became president in January.

A number of provisions would hit taxpayers in Democratic-leaning states hardest, like rolling back deductions for state and local taxes and cutting in half the popular mortgage interest deduction.

The legislation, called the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, produces new advantages for rich Americans through lowered corporate taxes, phasing out the estate tax and dumping the alternative minimum tax.

"This is a very important and special moment for our country, for all Americans. Are we going to let the defenders of the status quo win and see our country continue down this downward spiral?" Republican House Speaker Paul Ryan asked, despite data showing about eight straight years of economic growth.

Meeting with Ryan and other key House Republicans, Trump told the lawmakers he was counting on them to maintain the momentum for tax cuts, and repeated his request that Congress send him the legislation to sign into law by the U.S. Thanksgiving holiday Nov. 23.

That is an ambitious timetable for such a long, multifaceted piece of legislation that will face a ferocious lobbying battle among business sectors affected by the bill and fierce opposition from many Democrats.

Trump called the bill an "important step" toward tax relief for Americans, adding in a statement, "We are just getting started, and there is much work left to do."

The bill presented by the tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee would consolidate the current number of tax brackets to four from seven: 12 percent, 25 percent, 35 percent and 39.6 percent. An earlier Republican tax outline had called for cutting the top rate for the highest earners to 35 percent.

The National Association of Home Builders blasted the legislation, saying it would damage home prices and punish homeowners in urban areas.

"We're concerned if enacted, this bill will throw us back into another housing recession," Jerry Howard, the group's president, said in an interview.

The group said the provision in the bill capping the interest deduction for future home purchases at $500,000 — half the current amount — was unacceptable. Howard said 7 million homes are currently above $500,000 and in high-cost regions like Washington, D.C., New York City, California and Hawaii, where the impact would be felt the most.

The bill would repeal the existing deduction for state and local income and sales taxes, and would cap the deduction for state and local property taxes at $10,000. Those provisions would most affect Americans in higher-tax states such as California, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Illinois.

The National Federation of Independent Business, the influential small business lobby, came out against the bill.

The bill's architects avoided one showdown by deciding not to make changes to the popular tax-deferred 401(k) retirement-savings program.

With Democrats solidly opposed to legislation they see as a giveaway to corporations and the rich that would expand the federal deficit, Republicans can ill afford to lose many in their own ranks as they aim to pass the bill in the coming weeks. REUTERS

Metro CEO Yggers Mortensen to be honored for media leadership

VillageCare selected Metro US CEO and Publisher Yggers Mortensen to be honored at this year's annual gala.

MORGAN ROUSSEAU
@metromorgan
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Metro CEO and Publisher Hans Kristian "Yggers" Mortensen will be honored at VillageCare's Legends of the Village gala in Tribeca.

Mr. Mortensen, a Denmark native with nearly two decades of management experience in the media industry, will be given The Village Business Legends Award at the 19th annual gala for his hands-on leadership. The event takes place on Nov. 13 at the Tribeca Rooftop.

His expansive career includes management in advertising, programming, broadcasting and, most recently, print and digital.

"We are proud to honor Yggers with this award not only for being a vital member of the media community, but for his creativity and innovation in helping VillageCare expand our brand awareness to the New York City region," said Emma Devito, president and chief executive officer at VillageCare. "Yggers and his team demonstrate a great understanding of the needs of the people we serve, and as a result, provided us effective channels to reach out to them."

Since 2008, Mr. Mortensen's entrepreneurial spirit has helped forge the way for Metro to become the fourth-largest newspaper in the U.S. and a leading voice in the news and entertainment realm. Under his direction, Metro has seen remarkable revenue and readership growth both in print and online.

Other media legends to be honored at the gala include Emmy Award-winning host, producer and author Andy Cohen, as well as Rev. James Gardiner, S.A, who is a member of the VillageCare board of directors and chairman of the organization's Client Services Committee.

VillageCare is a continuing-care organization that recognizes and supports self-directed, interactive care enabling people to control aspects of their own care and help them to maintain their independence. Serving nearly 25,000 individuals annually, VillageCare provides post-acute care, community-based services and managed long-term care in the boroughs of Brooklyn, Manhattan, the Bronx and Queens.

This year, VillageCare celebrates its 40th anniversary.

For ticket information, please call the VillageCare Foundation office at (212) 337-5743.

Metro CEO and Publisher Yggers Mortensen will receive an award for his leadership in the media industry. PROVIDED

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President Trump's call for the death penalty for Sayfullo Saipov was irresponsible, experts say

The president's outspokenness could harm the integrity of the justice system, according to legal analysts.

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kristin.toussaint@metro.us

Will the New York City terrorist get the death penalty?

That's the question many are wondering after Sayfullo Saipov, 29, was charged with terrorism for Tuesday's attack in which eight people were killed and a dozen injured.

President Donald Trump took to Twitter Wednesday night and Thursday to voice his thoughts on Saipov's fate. Though Trump backed off of his push to send Saipov to Guantanamo Bay, he reiterated his belief that the Uzbek native should get the death penalty — a comment that concerned Donna Lieberman, executive director of the New York Civil Liberties Union.

"His call for the death penalty is among the most irresponsible things he's said yet," she said. "It undermines and shows a lack of understanding and respect for our judicial system, which is predicated on a fair process for everybody who stands accused of a crime."

New York state does not currently have the death penalty — New York Court of Appeals ruled the state's death penalty statute unconstitutional in 2007 — but terrorism charges fall under federal, not state, jurisdiction, meaning the federal death penalty could still be carried out.

"Even in the federal system, where there is the possibility of a death penalty, the only decision that needs to be made or can be made right now is whether to seek it," Lieberman said. "There's a process in the Department of Justice for that and there is a whole judicial process that has to go on before you get to that question."

Other law experts shared Lieberman's sentiments. In response to Trump's first tweet on the issue, in which he said, "NYC terrorist was happy as he asked to hang ISIS flag in his hospital room. He killed 8 people, badly injured 12. SHOULD GET DEATH PENALTY," Andrew C. McCarthy, former assistant United States attorney in the Southern District of New York for 18 years, felt the need to respond.

"Mr. President, we all know he should get the death penalty," McCarthy tweeted. "But when 'you' say it, it makes it harder for DOJ to make that happen."

There is a precedent for a federal capital punishment charge being administered in a state without the death penalty — the case of Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev.

Though Trump emphasized speed in his tweet as a reason to push for the death penalty, Tsarnaev's process wasn't that quick: Tsarnaev was captured on April 19, 2013, plead not guilty to 30 federal counts on July 10, 2013, and was sentenced to death two years later, on May 15, 2015, and he remains on federal death row today, awaiting that fate for what experts say will be the next 10 years or more.

Sayfullo Saipov might face the death penalty. GETTY IMAGES

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Slaying the patriarchy with Sarah Polley

wknd

"Alias Grace" follows the true story of Grace Marks (Sarah Gadon) — it's less of a whodunnit and more of an exploration of Marks herself. JAN THIJS/NETFLIX

Chatting with the woman behind Netflix's latest, "Alias Grace," about her new miniseries, Harvey Weinstein and representation.

RACHAEL VAUGHAN CLEMMONS
@rachaelclemz
rachael.clemmons@metro.us

Sarah Polley has been busy. The talented multihyphenate — actress, director, writer and political activist — is on the press trail for "Alias Grace," a Netflix miniseries based on the Margaret Atwood novel of the same name. "It's been a really awesome experience to finally see it come to fruition," the 38-year-old tells me over the phone. "It's been great."

The Toronto native read the novel as a teen and decided then and there to adapt it — at the ripe age of 17. After finally getting the rights at age 30, her work is premiering on Netflix today.

Of course, it would be natural to expect "Alias Grace" to be more of the same, Atwood-adaptation-wise — especially because the series comes less than a year after the critically lauded "The Handmaid's Tale." But where "THT" follows women in an uncertain dystopian future, "Alias Grace" explores a true story with consequential roots in the past.

"Grace" is a fictional take on the true story of Grace Marks, an Irish immigrant and domestic servant who was convicted of murdering her employer and his housekeeper/lover in 1840s Canada. But the miniseries is less focused on whether or not she did it than on who Grace Marks actually was.

"She's one of these women that a lot of people projected onto," Polley says. "She was a beautiful 16-year-old girl, she was completely fascinating to people. Men were in love with her and projected on to her that she must be innocent. A lot of people decided she must be guilty. The mystery is who she actually was, and what her voyage was. She never got to speak for herself."

The series is part of a trend — timely and propitious stories about women fighting against patriarchal structures are striking a chord now more than ever. "We're in such a precarious moment right now — for women and for anybody who has been marginalized," Polley says. "It's a really scary moment."

Polley wrote about her own experience fighting patriarchal structures, detailing a story of her own run-in at age 19 with disgraced producer and alleged serial sexual assaulter Harvey Weinstein. "It's not just our industry, it's all industries," she says. "It's not just gender, it's also race and class. We live with power structures and an economic system that is based on inequality and injustice and marginalization. Being conscious of the ways that we are complicit, in respect to all of those things, is really important. It's the first step in a much bigger conversation."

She admits that it's taken herself a long time — "way too long" — to acknowledge racial disparities, especially in media. "We're all kind of complicit in a system that's pretty racist and discriminatory on many levels," she says. She notes that taking a look at her own films, including the not-so-diverse "Take This Waltz," and seeing the lack of diversity in them was a particular low point.

"I had a real awakening, which continues," she says. "I don't think as a middle-class white person you're ever going to get to the bottom of your own ignorance. You have to keep trying, and you just keep asking questions. It has to be part of my work to get better."

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Polley — who has attributed her late onset wokeness largely to watching the Black Lives Matter movement — says her next project will bring together a collective of women and give a voice to their stories. She wants to create space in the industry for people of color to tell their own stories, in their own way.

"I don't think it's appropriate for me as a white filmmaker to decide to write stories for people from other communities," she says. "But to actually create a space where they can write their own stories, then help bring that to the screen is really exciting to me."

Rob Reiner and Woody Harrelson's 'LBJ,' and America after JFK

Woody Harrelson as Lyndon B Johnson.
CASTLE ROCK ENTERTAINMENT

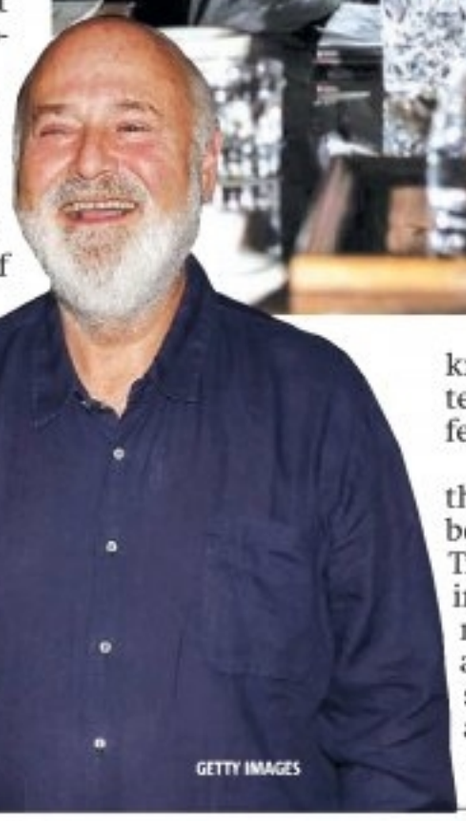
"I'd rather not have it than have it this way."

GREGORY WAKEMAN
@MetroPhilly
gregory.wakeman@metro.us

Fact: Rob Reiner is a national treasure. He's the only Hollywood success story that's never had to rely on a sequel. He's jumped from comedy ("This Is Spinal Tap") to coming-of-age ("Stand By Me"), from fantasy ("The Princess Bride") to romantic comedy ("The Sure Thing" & "When Harry Met Sally"), from horror ("Misery") to legal drama ("A Few Good Men"), and defined each genre (P.S. those six are only a small sample of his work).

"LBJ," his latest political drama about Lyndon B. Johnson's sudden ascension to the presidency, was a tricky project for Reiner, in no small part because "I hated him," he says candidly. "I was of draft age in that period and I could've gotten killed in Vietnam."

This movie largely avoids the war, instead focusing on LBJ's deep complexities. "He had a lot of strength; he was like a bull in a china shop," says Reiner. "But he had a tremendous amount of insecurity. I wanted to get into the complexities of his internal workings, and what kind of person he was. To me, this isn't really a biopic. If it was we'd have to show his entire history. I wanted to show this one sliver of what it's like when you have to assume the power of president after you've wanted it your life, but are concerned that people don't love you."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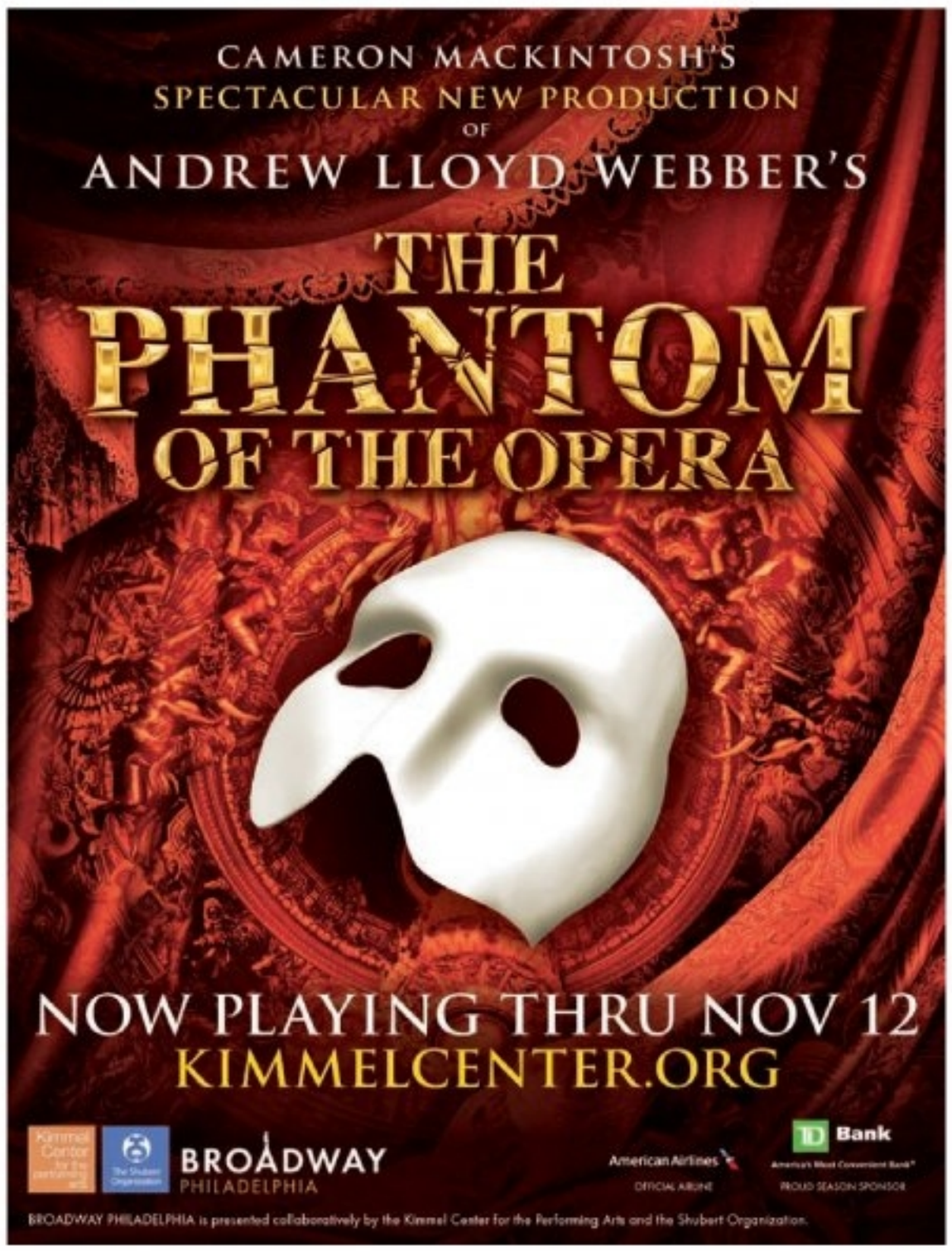
How does Reiner think "LBJ" is applicable in our current, highly-charged political climate? "You look at this film in context of what a real president was able to accomplish, and [compare it to] that person in the White House today — I don't even call him president; I don't know what he is." But tell us how you *really* feel!

"One of the things that's been unearthed because of (President Trump's) rise is this incredible cancer and racism, and he gives it a megaphone," Reiner says. "LBJ comes along at this time, and these are issues that have been dealt with in many different films, [but considering] where the country is right now, it takes on a very different perspective."

If anything, the rise of Donald Trump has only added an edge to "LBJ," making it feel more integral than it might have otherwise.

"LBJ" is in cinemas now.



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"Thor: Ragnarok"

Director: Taika Waititi
Stars: Chris Hemsworth, Mark Ruffalo, Cate Blanchett
Rating: PG-13

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Here's the problem with "Thor: Ragnarok" — it's impossible to give much of a s—t when your lead character can withstand every ferocious hammering and still spit out a (admittedly amusing) one-liner. But the laughs don't compensate for a complete lack of spectacle, suspense or surprises, especially when you consider that the "Ragnarok" trailer featured all its biggest action bits. If you arrive expecting to be amazed by $180 million worth of moviemaking genius, you're better off just enjoying the preview online and getting your camp '80s graphics and tunes from the second season of "Stranger Things." Because that's free (thank you, former roommate, for never changing your Netflix password). GREGORY WAKEMAN

"Lady Bird"

Director: Greta Gerwig
Stars: Saoirse Ronan, Laurie Metcalf
Rating: R

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Ready to feel good about women in Hollywood again? Yeah, we were, too. And the quietly beautiful performances by the title character, Saoirse Ronan, and her struggling-to-keep-it-all-together mother, played by the inimitable Laurie Metcalf — not to mention the spot-on writing by (also) director Greta Gerwig — culminate in a coming-of-age movie that will win a barrel of Oscars. The relationships are precise, the topics are moving,and we can all relate to a teenager who doesn't know exactly who she is or where she wants to be, apart from being certain it's anyplace but here. GW

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"A Bad Moms Christmas"

Director: Scott Moore, Jon Lucas
Stars: Mila Kunis, Kristen Bell, Kathryn Hahn
Rating: R

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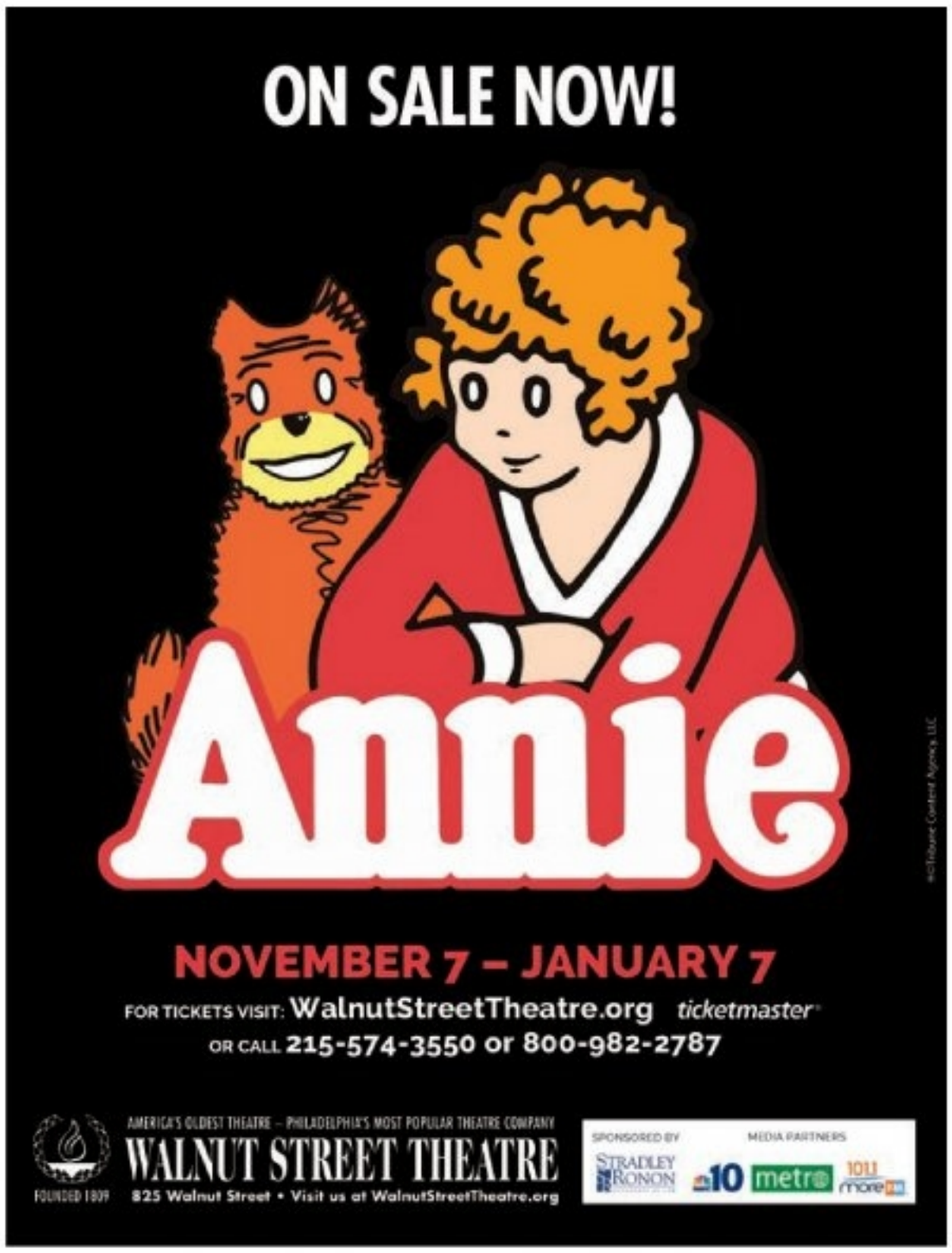
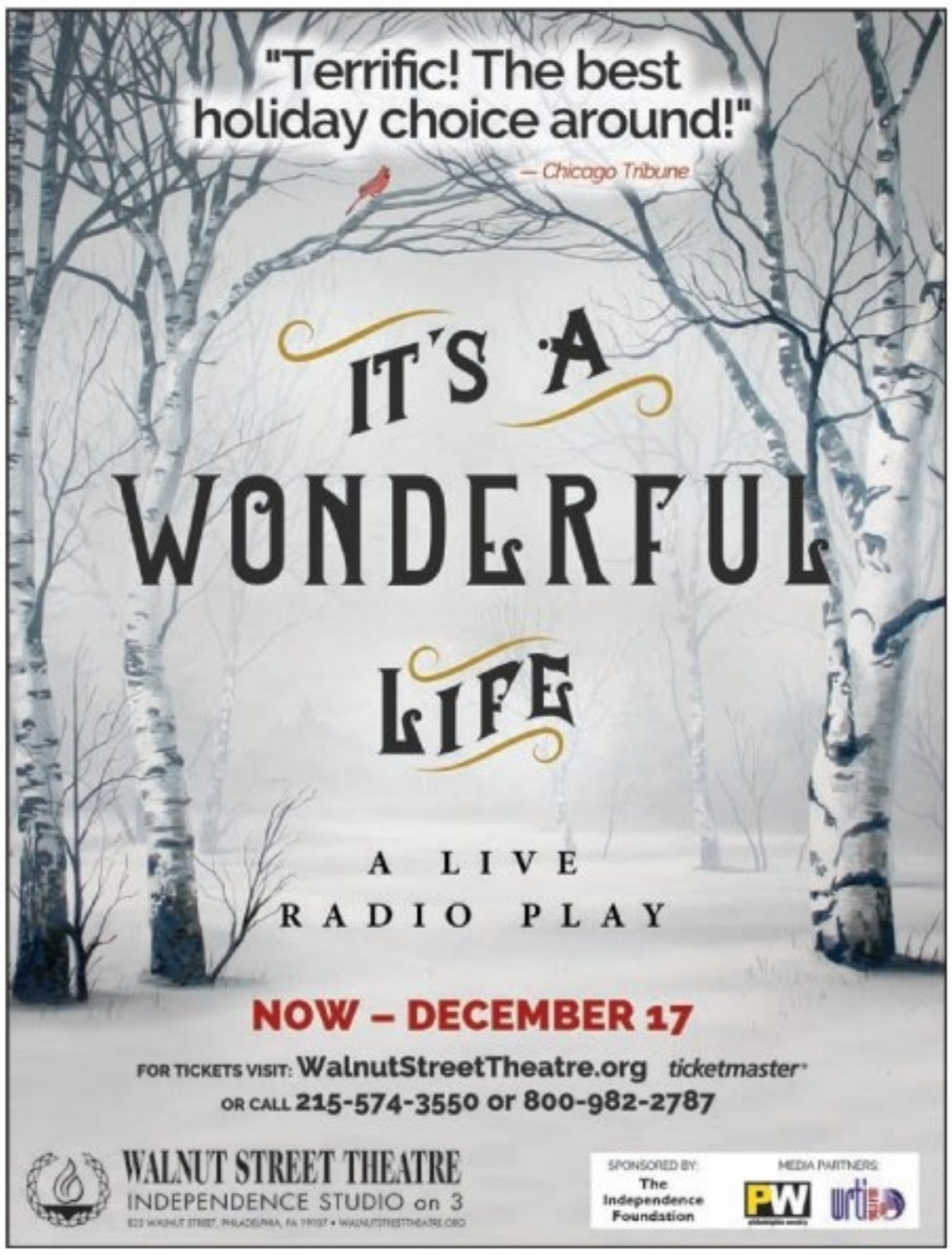
While "A Bad Moms Christmas" might lack any tact or subtlety in its jokes and stab at sentimentality, it still produces enough laughs and heart. It helps that the cast of moms' moms (Christine Baranski, Cheryl Hines and especially Susan Sarandon) are perfectly cast alongside the original trio. The fact that it is set at Christmas doesn't make the film as warm or effective as it could've been; it doesn't stand-out like its predecessor. But ultimately "A Bad Moms Christmas" aims low and just about delivers, which is all one could really expect from the franchise. You'll forget this film long before you start poking around boxes looking for your holiday decorations. GW





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Take a bite out of the chicken milanese torta from Mission Taqueria. NEAL SANTOS

Build your own banh mi at Double Knot. NEAL SANTOS

Vegetarians rejoice! Bud & Marilyn's has a smoked beet reuben with your name on it. BONDFIRE MEDIA

City Tap House has a pretty epic French dip sandwich during lunch. PROVIDED

Where to celebrate National Sandwich Day 2017

It's the best thing since sliced bread.

JENNIFER LOGUE
@jenniferlogue
jennifer.logue@metro.us

On Friday, Nov. 3, the world celebrates National Sandwich Day, and Philly had plenty of options for you to get your fix. For those with more simple tastes, why not get a yummy fried-green tomato grilled cheese? Craving Asian-inspired cuisine but on a baguette? There's a bahn mi at Double Knot with your name on it. Even vegetarians can get in on the action with delicious sandwich options from Little Lion and Bud & Marilyn's — no meat required. No matter what your flavor, Philly has plenty of ways for you to make the most of National Sandwich Day.

Chicken milanese torta

Eat your sandwich with a side of natural light at the sunny and spacious Mission Taqueria. The chicken milanese torta comes with crispy chicken breast, ayocote bean hummus, avocado, queso Oaxaca, watercress and jalapeño mayo. The dash of spice is sure to warm you up as the weather gets cooler.

Mission Taqueria
1516 Sansom St.
missiontaqueria.com

Banh mi

Perhaps you want to enjoy your sandwich in a more sleek yet chill atmosphere in a spot like Double Knot. The build-your-own banh mi lunch option is a steal for only $7, and you can choose between chicken, steak, shrimp, tofu, meatball or pork. In terms of fixings, you can add cabbage, pickled carrots, daikon, mint and cilantro. Yum!

Double Knot
120 S. 13th St.
doubleknotphilly.com

Smoked beet reuben

This sandwich is almost too pretty to eat — it simply bursts with color! If you're avoiding meat on National Sandwich Day, you won't feel like you're missing out with Bud & Marilyn's smoked beet reuben. It comes with swiss cheese, Russian dressing, pickled carrot and jicama on toasted rye.

Bud & Marilyn's
1234 Locust St.
budandmarilyns.com

Fried-green-tomato grilled cheese

Grilled cheese is pretty amazing by itself but somehow, the folks at Little Lion in Old City have kicked it up a notch by throwing a fried green tomato into the mix. Along with sharp cheddar, pimento cheese and balsamic on country white bread, this grilled cheese is bursting with flavor and texture.

The Little Lion
243 Chestnut St.
thelittlelionphilly.com

French dip sandwich

Feeling super hungry on National Sandwich Day? Head to City Tap House for the epic French Dip Sandwich, which is served during lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. It consists of shaved London broil, provolone, creamy horseradish and au jus, all on a crusty baguette. As if that wasn't enough, it even comes with fries. Who's winning? You are!

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Eric Karch, Janeen Milton, Abel Fullman, Arsen Avanesov, Ryanne Edwards, Andrew Houck, Yvette Rivera, Barbara Coates, Cindy Lewis, Fallon Nicholas, Diane Ware, Stuart Janoff, Jack Henson, Rebecca Asheuer, Bernard Sarpong, Patrick Hall, Clement Hipple, Helena Jeffcoat, Sarah Rios, Pierre Pinard, Jerome Walcott Jr, Abraham Sirleaf
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Tricia Foy, Melissa Bradby, Darlene Williams, Total Care Services, Rebecca Stauffer, Quasaan Bethea, Roland Clough, Latise Brown, Michelle Stevens, Christian Blackwell
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Janice Jarvis, Teljah Norris, John White Jr, Angelique Leiber, James Gallop, Gabrielle Mclendon, Heather Tansey, Joseph King Jr, Stephanie Powell, Eric Champey, Briana Simpson, Cornelia Hartman, Linda Kimble, Jacob Grussenmeyer, Teresa Paprik, Philip Killen, Timothy Mcdonough, Jessica Bartkowski, Cameron Mcbride-Gee, Samuel Davis
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Geekadelphia closes its doors — for now

The local blog that keeps Philly geeks informed and entertained will be taking an indefinite hiatus at the beginning of 2018.

MIKE FENN
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

One of the staples in Philadelphia's geek culture will be taking a much-deserved break at the end of 2017. After 10 successful years, the Geekadelphia blog will be going on an indefinite hiatus starting January 1, 2018.

Since its first post on November 29, 2007, Geekadelphia has helped keep area geeks informed of the area's geeky happenings, which of course only increased in quantity as "geekdom" increased in popularity. The blog promoted everything from special exhibits at the Franklin Institute and Academy of Natural Sciences to events such as nerd-themed comedy or burlesque performances. In addition, experts on all facets of the culture kept loyal readers thoroughly engaged with in-depth reviews of the latest comic book titles and movies.

Eric Smith and Tim Quirino were inspired to cofound Geekadelphia by, really, "Tim's adventures running around the city in a Stormtrooper outfit."

"I poured myself into Geekadelphia in the beginning because my day job was soul-crushing," Quirino explains. "I was the only designer at a small retail company that had no idea what they were doing selling things online. Feeling depressed and isolated, Eric and I started documenting our adventures in costume around Philadelphia."

From such a unique launchpad, something bigger was quickly produced.

"It quickly became an outlet for writing about stuff no one else was covering: local comic book artists, local game developers, quirky events and the like," Smith says. "It ended up filling a niche that was missing coverage, and I'm glad we were able to do that."

While geeks now had a voice for their interests through the blog, a humble Smith explains that he didn't think Geekadelphia was responsible for shaping the landscape of geek culture in Philadelphia. "It's always been there, doing its thing, being awesome and fun, but I am sure of how it brought people together," Smith muses.

Mikey Ilagan, Geekadelphia's current editor-in-chief, also agrees on the closeness of the community that Geekadelphia has helped to bring about. He began his career with the blog when he and Quirino were selected for the Ford Fiesta Movement, a social media marketing campaign with Ford. "I've met countless people through Geekadelphia and you could say it's had a profound impact on my circle of friends and even the relationship with my now-wife, Allie," Ilagan says.

Quirino agrees. "Geekadelphia became the interface by which we were able to plug into the groups and people that made Philadelphia's tech/nerd scene what it is today," he says. "We didn't make it happen, we just helped bring everyone together through events, coverage, and ultimately through the awards. What everyone else did after that was purely out of mutual respect, fun and excitement."

The "awards" that Quirino refers to are the annual Philly Geek Awards, perhaps Geekadelphia's most visible endeavor. Since the kickoff ceremony in 2011, the black-tie event has recognized the top names in local geeky industries, ranging from scientists to video game developers and even highlighting local bloggers and comic artists. In 2016, local geeky partners Technically Philly and Generocity joined Geekadelphia in sponsoring and managing the event. And while Geekadelphia may be going silent for the time being, Ilagan assures Philadelphia geeks that the Philly Geek Awards are here to stay and will return in 2018.

Eric Smith is the co-founder of Geekadelphia. HANNAH SIDDIQUI

Through the remainder of 2017, loyal Geekadelphia readers can expect to see the site's signature coverage and reviews of all things locally nerdy, with goodbye letters and retrospectives from its writers added into the mix. While no new content will be posted to Geekadelphia come 2018, the content that already exists on the blog will remain in place; the site will not be coming down or going offline in any way. Additionally, Geekadelphia's various social media channels, including its Twitter and Facebook feeds, will remain active continuing to promote local geeky content and events.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, by public internet sale via **www.storagetreasures.com** for competitive bidding to begin on **November 3rd, 2017 at 4:00 pm** and concluding on **November 16th at 4:00 pm** via the Compass Self Storage located at **1300 Belmont Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19104.**

Unit# 1004 Stefon Wood • Unit# 1036 Lore Watson • Unit# 1045 Miriam Carrington • Unit# 1052 Deana Nilay • Unit# 1075 Jasmine Barnett
Unit# 1074 Kenneth Cherry • Unit# 1078 Louise Battle • Unit# 1099 Stacey Walker • Unit# 3047 Eliana Gaines • Unit# 3068 Tanya Lewis
Unit# 2064 Jason Johnson • Unit# 2104 Samuel White • Unit# 2111 Aliya Davis • Unit# 2161e Peggy Nader • Unit# 2190 Joel Robinson
Unit# 2161 Joel Robinson • Unit# 2196 Norman Brown • Unit# 2208 Rosalina Doughty • Unit# 3006 Darrell Reardon • Unit# 3016 James Crozier
Unit# 3028 Eric Ekiere • Unit# 3021 Michael Sturgis • Unit# 3060 Aaron Pinkney • Unit# 3067 Rena Hlaka • Unit# 3075 The Partnership CDC, Steven Williams
Unit# 3082 Charles Evans • Unit# 4064 James Rogers • Unit# 4022 Eugene Cooper • Unit# 6017 Dorothy Simmons • Unit# 6033 Leonard Purnell
Unit# 6043 Barr Border Unit# 6064 Joel Robinson Unit# 6072 Salim Spann • Unit# 7066 Tanesha Croxton • Unit# 7038 Richard Hubbard
Unit# 7061 Erika Bagg • Unit# 8116 Ayisha Palmer • Unit# 8121 Michael Russell • Unit# 8181 Joseph Pressley • Unit# 8188 Kynal Riddick
Unit# 8206 Kevin Colson-Brooks • Unit# 8210 Chantae Holmes • Unit# 800 Lamina Best • Unit# 083 Gregory Robinson • Unit# 823 Syreeta Shepard
Unit# 833 Oliver Assinan, Symphony Square • Unit# F08 Dominic Bright • Unit# F11 Theresa Rich • Unit# F14 Tina Gales

Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the time of sale. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of the purchase. Compass Self Storage reserves the right to refuse any bid. Sale is subject to adjournment.

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Pennsylvania Self-Service Storage Facility Act, **Prime Storage - located at 2231 S. 62nd St Philadelphia, PA 19142** intends to hold an auction of the goods stored in the following units in default for non-payment of rent. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.StorageStuff.bid ENDING on **11.17.17** at 12pm. Unless otherwise stated the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings, boxes, misc.

#209 - Guye Peterson, #611 - Briana Middleton, #1403 - Gennie High-Beatty,
#1419 - Sidney L. Ellis, #1309 - Joseph T. Youboty, #1513 - Delroy Scotland,
#1613 - Tracy Moore, #1614 - Doritha Jackson, #1712 - Debbian R. Kumar, #2008 - Herman Bland

All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply; CASH ONLY. Contact manager at **215-729-8885** or www.StorageStuff.bid for details.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, by public internet sale via **www.StorageTreasures.com** for competitive bidding to begin on **November 2nd, 2017 at 4:00 PM** and conclude **November 16, 2017 at 4:00 PM** via the Compass Self Storage located at **12 E Oregon Ave Philadelphia, PA 19148.**

The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances.

Unit # 1115 Cynthia Cortez • Unit # 1334 Michael Amicone
Unit # 1743 Stephanie Jones • Unit # 1820 Denise D'adamo
Unit # 2314 Lynda Callsen • Unit # 2528 Annunziata DeSalis

Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the time of sale. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Compass Self Storage reserves the right to refuse any bid. Sale is subject to adjournment.

Public Storage **NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY**

Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Self-Service Storage Facility Act, Pennsylvania Statutes, Title 73, Chapter 26 § 1901 et seq., a public auction will take place on **11/15/2017** at the below-listed Public Storage facilities, for the following units, the contents of which shall be sold to satisfy the owner's lien. **Public Storage Located At, 245 West Chester Pike, Havertown, PA 19083 at 10:00AM (610)-853-9809.**

B076 - O'Connor, Kathleen • B106 - Tarsia, Samantha • B199 - Ama, Denise
C063 - Alioto, Nancy • C085 - Smith, Jazmine • C167 - Laskey, Michael
C173 - Roper, Terrell • C213 - Nessa, Hayatun

All Sales Are subject to Cancellation Public Storage Terms, Rules and Regulations will be made prior to the sale. PS Orangeco Inc. 701 Western Ave. Glendale California, 91201. PS ORANGECO, INC

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A403-Dill, Ashley • A514-Malain, Paulette • A517-Hines, Donna • A545-Dandridge, Kenyatta • A641-Torres, John Alexander
A805-Fields, Christopher • A809-Brinkley, Kellani • B1028-Sirleaf, Conduct • B2007-Williams, David • B2022-Nyamarirs, Venelius
B3016-Beatty, George E. • B3018-Taules, Mysia • B4001-Fields, Doris • B4305-West, Aleeyah • B4807-Coleman, Sylvia
B4817-Mielck, James • B4819-Brown, G. Simone • B923-Powell Jr, Willie • B929-Powell, Michael • C1801-Nelson, William • C9028-Walker, Tamika

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A001-ALIOTO, NANCY • A023-Harvin, Shakeenya • A027-Bunting, Eric • A049-ALIOTO, NANCY • A081-Phibbs, Nicole
A122-Staudt, Carissa • A163-Pratt, Shakiera • B191-Harris, Cynthia • B197-Lewis, Blaine • B209-Hodges, Hugh • B229-Berry, Karen
B228-Love, Sharon • B248-PETERS JR., JAMES • B258-Willis, Doris • B283-Robinson, Dionnnique • B293-Jackson, Dante
B299-Scantling, Jeffrey • B308-Bell Jr., Ronald • B421-Joseph, Francisco • B512-Reed, Lawanice • B538-Hawks, Cody
B544-Morrison, Peale • B566-Deans, Shadora • C577-Dennis, Tamia • Ch21-Glenn, Omar • Ch32-Weatherbie, Shamara
C694-Hearts, Randal • C740-McLean, Kellie • C747-Hurdbert, Eugene • C775-Weston, Rakeem • C788-Lynn, Nicole • C812-Cooper, Ardis
C824-Hawkins, Christine • C825-Wallace, Cierra • C838-Jackson, Reginald • C865-Drummond, Tyson • C925-Stewart, Jonathan

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A111-Robinson, Edward • A116-Travers, Courtney • A131-Norfleet, Thomas • A143-Trader, Donyelle • B337-Gravely, Bob
B417-Owens, Steven • B448-Tucker, Traci • C611-Beard, Michael • D707-Godfrey, Margaret • D730-Pierce, Terrance • D821-Jones, Seribb
E1021-Brown, George • E1025-Rose, Che • E1048-Knight, Joseph • E914-Lawson, Nicholas • E926-Buckner, Di'a • E929-Walston, Sharifi
E934-Schell, Jasmine • F1117-Scott, Sevilla • F1248-Bryant, Tamara • F1249-Whitehead, Brandi • F1250-Deye, Charles
F1252-Nassey, Trevor • G1338-HARRISON, MANDY • G1433-Gary, Kimberly • H1604-Barnes, Angela

All sales are subject to cancellation. Public auction terms, rules, and regulations will be made available prior to the sale. PS Orangeco, Inc., 701 Western Avenue, Glendale, CA 91201. PS ORANGECO, INC

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C002 - Kelly, Michael • D107 - King, Tangie • D113 - Moore, Christine
D182 - Unterkoeffer, Richard • D269 - Nemeth, Christine • D299 - Crescenzo, Michael
D305 - Brown, Nakeeta • E189 - Gallagher, Erika • E251 - Cartwright, Travis

All sales are subject to cancellation. Public auction terms, rules, and regulations will be made available prior to the sale. PS Orangeco, Inc., 701 Western Avenue, Glendale, CA 91201. PS ORANGECO, INC

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C111-Degarr, Chloe • E309-Hoopes, Kathleen
F406-Abraham, Tina • F419-Ayres, Korrie
F436-Davis, Jessica

All sales are subject to cancellation. Public auction terms, rules, and regulations will be made available prior to the sale. PS Orangeco, Inc., 701 Western Avenue, Glendale, CA 91201. PS ORANGECO, INC

Ben Simmons is averaging 18.5 points and 7.9 assists per game so far this season. GETTY IMAGES

Sixers finally in good hands with Embiid, Simmons

The Sixers have rattled off three straight wins.

ANDY JASNER
@AndyJasner
sports@metro.us

The rabid, win-starved 76ers fan base is finally able to see the one-two punch of Joel Embiid and Ben Simmons. It has been a beautiful sight.

Finally, the young dynamic duo has been healthy enough to play together. And learn together.

For now, at least, the medical updates are being put on hold. The results have been terrific.

Embiid had 21 points, 12 rebounds and six assists while Simmons compiled 19 points, 13 rebounds and nine assists in a 119-109 victory Wednesday night over the Atlanta Hawks. The win pulled the Sixers back to .500 at 4-4, the first time they have reached that plateau since Nov. 13, 2013, when they were 5-5.

That's saying something.

The chemistry between the two budding stars was evident again against the Hawks. The only way this franchise will take the next step toward the playoffs is by having their stars playing night in and night out.

Embiid scored at least 20 points for the fifth straight game.

Meanwhile, Simmons has recorded at least 10 points, five rebounds and five assists in each of his first eight career games, joining Hall of Famer Oscar Robertson (10 straight) as the only two players to open their careers in such a stellar way.

Simmons is far from satisfied.

"There's a lot more," Simmons said. "Way more. I've got to keep working hard, stay in the gym. In a few years, it's going to be fun."

Embiid played 30 minutes and looks to be improving on his conditioning as each game concludes. The 7-foot-2 center played 30 minutes and shot 9 of 16 from the floor. More than that, he was active on both ends.

"It means, that's what third in a row? Four out of five, so we're just getting better," Embiid said. "We're a young team and, like I always say, that's not an excuse but we just have to keep on going and getting better and, you know, we had a few losses that I wish we would have had. If we would have won those games, our record would've been much better than (it is now), but, you know, have to keep on going."

These fans suffered through 75 wins in a four-year period. Embiid missed two full seasons. Simmons sat out one season.

They're back now creating havoc in the most positive way for the Sixers. They've just started their journeys as this young team looks to make a move in the Eastern Conference.

While prized No. 1 overall pick Markelle Fultz recovers from a shoulder injury, this team is being led by Embiid and Simmons. The Sixers will go as far as they take them.

The fans will enjoy every step of the trek to respectability and beyond if they continue to perform at this level.

What's not to like?

"To be able to come here and share what we are drawing with our fans, let them experience some of the joy we haven't had in previous years, this is a good thing," coach Brett Brown said. "We want our home court being loud and proud, we want to give them something to cheer about. Tonight, I think, especially in the fourth period, we gave it to them."

The season will be filled with highs and lows. With Embiid and Simmons anchoring this group and staying healthy, expect many more highs.

What's on tap?

After dropping the first three games of the season, the Sixers have won their last three contests and four out of their last five. They'll look to jump above .500 Friday night when they host the Indiana Pacers (7 p.m., NBC Sports Philly). The Pacers are one of the surprise teams in the early-going of this NBA season as they're 5-3 despite having traded their best player in Paul George this past summer. Victor Oladipo and Myles Turner are both averaging over 20 points per game for Indiana. The Sixers will get three days of rest before starting a West Coast road trip that begins at Utah on Tuesday night. The Jazz are also looking good so far at 5-3 despite losing their best player in Gordon Hayward this past summer. - ***Matt Burke***

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3 Things to watch for as Eagles host the Broncos

1

Bucking the Denver 'D'

The Broncos are the NFL's best total defense, allowing just 261 yards per game. Like Philly, where Denver does its most damage on defense is against the run, as their ground counter-attack is the second best (behind, of course, the Eagles). With new running back Jay Ajayi expected to be on the field — but in a light capacity as he learns the offense following a mid-week trade — LeGarrette Blount will be called on in tough circumstances. He'll have to find holes against Von Miller and company and that's no easy task.

"Denver has one of better defenses we'll face," Eagles quarterback Carson Wentz said. "[Von] Miller can change a game in a hurry."

2

Rocking Brock

The Broncos — at 3-4 and hanging on for their playoff lives — are making a quarterback change this week, subbing in Brock Osweiler for Trevor Siemian. What does this mean for the Eagles defense? Well for a unit that has been stout against mobile, pocket passers and everyone in between, it shouldn't mean much.

"Every week you've got to get ready," Eagles defensive coordinator Jim Schwartz said. "I mean, just life in the NFL, first play of the game you might be seeing a backup. So, you always have to have an eye toward that. I think it's probably a little bit different this week. First of all, with them coming off a short week, who knows what'll happen. We'll be prepared for any of the three quarterbacks that come."

3

Wentz for MVP?

Carson Wentz leads all NFL quarterbacks in touchdown passes, is third in yardage and has one of the best quarterback ratings in the league at 101.6. However, with just 211 yards last week against the lowly Niners — and one of his five interceptions — he showed he was perhaps human afterall. Will he be able to rebound against a really tough defense in Denver? If he does, he'll have to show he can continue to handle the blitz.

"I think Carson's handling it very well," Eagles offensive coordinator Frank Reich said of Wentz, who has been sacked 22 times, fifth most in football. EVAN MACY

WEEK 9

Sunday at 1 p.m. on CBS

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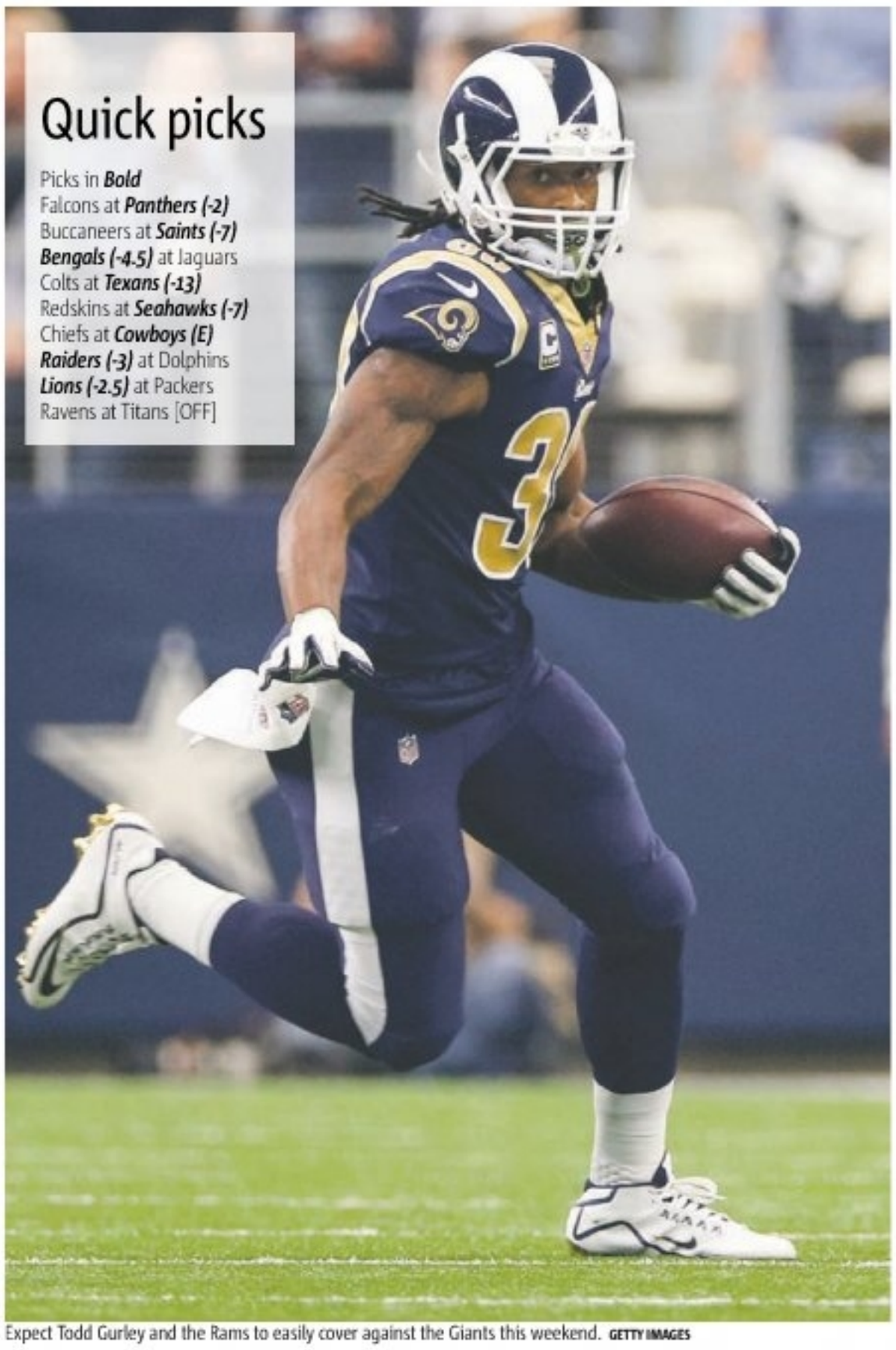

Expect Todd Gurley and the Rams to easily cover against the Giants this weekend. GETTY IMAGES

Best bets for NFL Week 9

A gambling guide for your NFL weekend.

ROBERT CRISCOLA
@MetroPhilly
sports@metro.us

A look at where to place your money this weekend.

Rams (-3.5) at Giants
Both of these teams exit a bye, but the Rams have a far better ATS record in this spot (7-2-1) than the Giants (4-6). L.A. has also trended favorably of late, covering in three of its four October games, while the Giants have done just the opposite.

Diving into the matchup, the Rams bring in their second-ranked scoring offense to face the team ranked 17th by the same metric. Todd Gurley, who has broken the 100-rushing-yard plateau in four of his last five games, looks poised for another big performance on the ground against the Giants' 23rd-ranked run stoppers.

Eli Manning's 30th-rated scoring offense should face plenty of resistance from the Rams' 10th-best defense by points allowed. He'll also be under duress from L.A.'s solid pass rush, which has amassed 23 sacks through seven games. All signs point to a convincing road win for the Rams. They're the best bet of the week.
The pick: Rams -3.5

Broncos at Eagles (-7.5)
Denver has failed to register 20 points in five straight games, going 1-4 ATS in that span. The Eagles, who have won and covered in five straight, have scored no fewer than 26 points in each game during that streak. And Philly's offense has gotten stronger since their latest victory, as they added Jay Ajayi to their backfield. He should complement an offense that's already second best in time of possession and fifth in rushing YPG.

Trevor Siemian, at a 76.8 passer rating and falling fast, has been a turnover machine of late, tossing six INTs in his last three starts. He's contributed in large part to Denver's ghastly minus-9 turnover differential over the last three games. The Eagles, by contrast, are plus-5 for the season, among the best marks in the league.
The pick: Eagles -7.5

Cardinals (-2) at 49ers
Arizona lost Carson Palmer to injury in Week 7 and now turn to Drew Stanton, who in one start against the Niners last year managed just a 77.1 passer rating. Adrian Peterson, brought in to salvage a running attack ranked last in the NFL, seemed to be a one-week wonder after a no-show performance against the Rams two weeks ago.

The Cardinals are 0-4 ATS on the road this year and have dropped three of their last four ATS against San Francisco. This should be the week the Niners get their elusive first victory of the season.
The pick: 49ers +2

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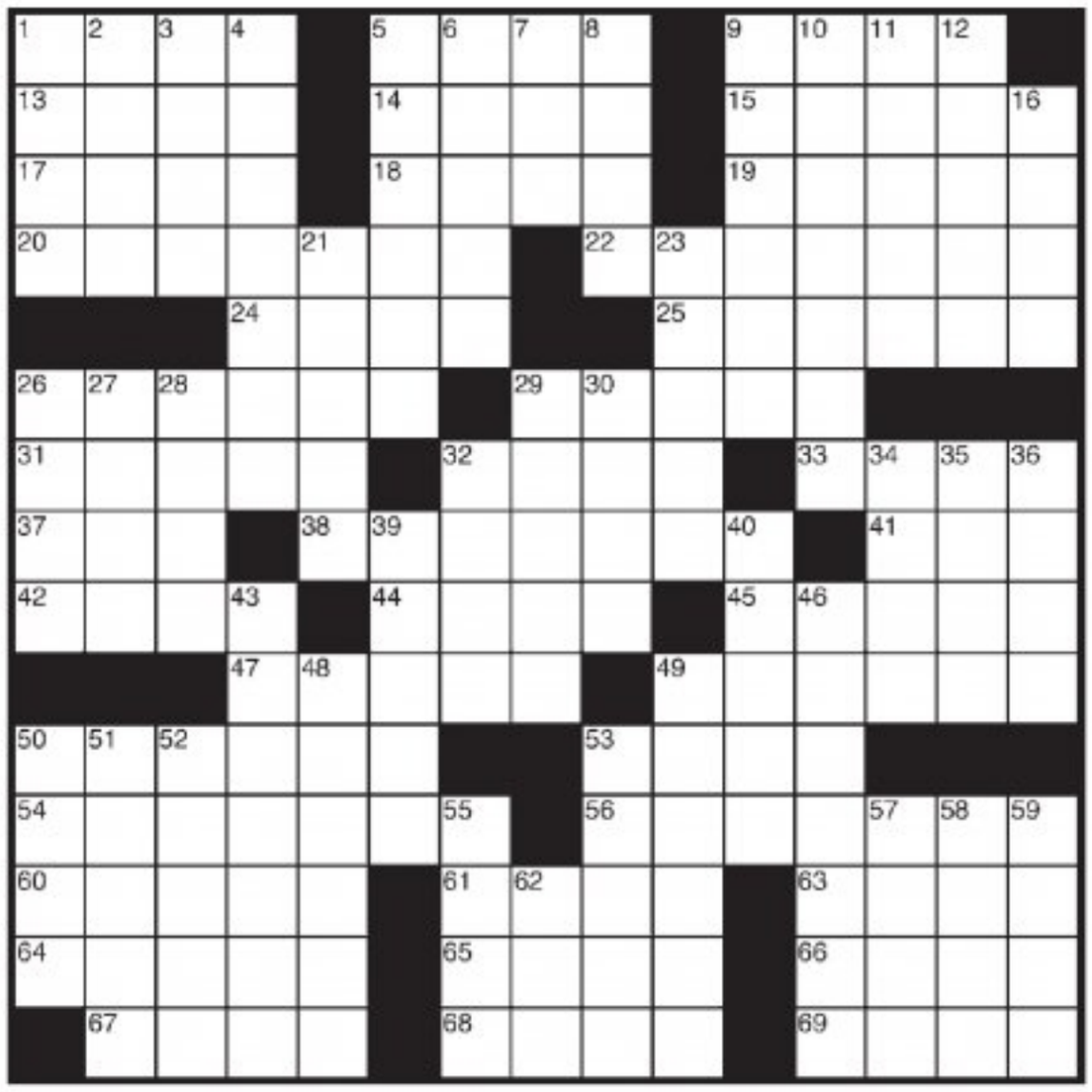
Across
1 Say "yeth"
5 Treated a sprain
9 Egg on
13 Affirm
14 Mme.'s daughter
15 Daily trio
17 Armor-breaking weapon
18 Prod along
19 Picasso's name
20 Keyed in data
22 Less windy
24 Some T-shirts
25 Far East
26 Flour or sugar
29 Old Norse poems
31 Cuba neighbor
32 "I came," to Caesar
33 Course of events
37 Limb
38 Flu shot locales
41 Forty winks
42 Southwest feature
44 Karras or Trebek
45 Usher's beat
47 Blender output
49 Daddy's sister
50 Later! (2 wds.)
53 Foot part
54 Intersected
56 Massaged
60 Let up
61 Frizzy hairdo
63 Trevi Fountain coins
64 Name
65 Play a trick on
66 Cruel
67 Later on
68 Watch over
69 H.H. Munro's pen name

Down
1 Flimsy, as an excuse
2 Tsar name
3 Splinter group
4 Knock off the air
5 Block
6 Lummoxes
7 Forest grazer
8 Poor grades
9 Strike caller
10 Pragmatic one
11 House feature
12 Ms. Barkin of films
16 Prepare laundry
21 Antique
23 Bar mixer
26 Pillow cover
27 Scale button
28 Purposes
29 "Walk Away --"
30 Computer operating system
32 Loathsome
34 Technical sch.
35 Surrealist painter
36 Foil's equivalent
39 Huge
40 Spaghetti topping
43 Early missionary
46 Breathes
48 Not directly evident
49 "Commando" lead
50 "Beat it!"
51 Shuttle course
52 Reluctant
53 Tire-making center
55 Mad
57 Operatic star
58 Kramer or Estrada
59 Pastrami seller
62 Ally opposite



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easy

					8		9	2
	1		6			4		8
			7	5		6		
1	6					8	7	
	9						6	
	4	7					2	3
		4		6	2			
8		6			4		1	
3	5		8					

hard

	2	8		7	1	5		
							9	
		4		6		7		2
		7			8		3	
		5	9		3	4		
	9		7			2		
1		2		9		3		
	5							
		3	2	1		6	5	

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries A personal situation or partnership will be on shaky ground. A tendency to overreact or take your frustrations out on someone else will put you in a difficult position.

Taurus Plan something special with family, friends or a loved one. Taking a break will ease your stress and give you a chance to digest what's been going on around you.

Gemini You'll be tempted to take part in something questionable. Show strength and discipline to avoid a situation that could put you in a compromising position.

Cancer Be up-front about what you are willing to contribute. Helping others will only be satisfying if you see that your contribution makes a difference.

Leo Situations will escalate quickly. Don't let your emotions take the reins and get you into trouble with your employer or a loved one. Keep the peace and do what's expected.

Virgo Take care of personal business and any family or home responsibilities first. Recognizing problems before they get too big will help counter a negative outcome.

Libra Physical alterations will give you a boost. A change to your lifestyle or to a relationship you cherish will help bring you closer to a stable and secure future.

Scorpio Keep a sound mind and a positive attitude. If you overreact, you will face opposition that will make it difficult for you to accomplish what you set out to do.

Sagittarius You'll be tempted to engage in something because of someone else, but before you do, get all the particulars, including what it will cost emotionally and financially.

Capricorn Look for a way to expand your living space or add a work station that will encourage you to develop your skills, learn something new or pursue a new hobby.

Aquarius Don't spend money you don't have. Emotional conflict will surface if someone is counting on you for something you cannot deliver.

Pisces Take advantage of an opportunity to make some extra cash. Making a worthwhile investment will encourage you to handle your cash more efficiently. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers

D	A	T	A	■	W	A	F	E	R	■	L	A	B	S
E	M	U	S	■	O	L	D	I	E	■	O	L	E	O
M	O	B	S	■	L	E	A	D	S	■	B	A	R	N
O	K	E	E	F	F	E	■	E	C	H	O	I	N	G
■	■	■	T	U	G	■	■	R	U	M	■	■	■	■
■	W	A	S	S	A	I	L	■	E	O	C	E	N	E
S	O	X	■	E	N	N	U	I	■	S	A	M	O	A
A	M	I	D	■	G	N	A	S	H	■	D	A	B	S
G	E	N	O	A	■	S	U	N	U	P	■	I	L	E
A	N	G	E	L	A	■	S	T	A	I	D	L	Y	■
■	■	■	P	R	E	■	■	R	T	E	■	■	■	■
B	O	U	D	O	I	R	■	R	A	S	C	A	L	S
E	D	N	A	■	S	U	M	A	C	■	E	L	I	A
S	I	T	U	■	E	P	O	C	H	■	I	S	A	K
S	N	O	B	■	S	T	O	K	E	■	T	O	R	E

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